

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/659,614

Examiner

LONGBIT CHAI

Applicant(s)

SMITH, MICHAEL R.

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Interview on 6/27/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 55, 58 – 62 and 64 – 74.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/27/2008.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Shawn Doman (Reg. No. 60,362) on 27 June 2008.

This application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claim 1 – 54, 56 – 57, 63 and 75 – 117.

Replace claim 55, 65 and 70 as follows.

Claim 55:

A method comprising:

populating an access control list with a destination user group identifier, wherein said populating is performed by a network device and comprises sending a request to another network device, and receiving a response from said another network device, wherein said response includes said destination user group identifier, wherein

said access control list is a role-based access control list,

said destination user group identifier identifies a destination user group of a destination,

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said access control list comprises a source user group field configured to store a source user group identifier and a destination user group field configured to store a destination user group identifier,

said source user group comprises a plurality of source network devices,
said source user group is assigned to said source based on a role of said source,
said destination user group comprises a plurality of destination network devices,
said destination user group is assigned to said destination based on a
role of said destination, and

said access control list is configured to allow said source user group identifier and said destination user group identifier to be compared.

Claim 65:

A computer program product comprising:

a first set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to populate an access control list with a destination user group identifier, wherein said to populate is performed by a network device and comprises sending a request to another network device, and receiving a response from said another network device, wherein said response includes said destination user group identifier, wherein

said access control list is a role-based access control list,
said destination user group identifier identifies a destination user group of a destination,
said access control list comprises a source user group field configured to store a source user group identifier and a destination user group field configured to store a destination user group identifier,

said source user group comprises a plurality of source network devices,

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said source user group is assigned to said source based on a role of said source,
said destination user group comprises a plurality of destination network devices,
said destination user group is assigned to said destination based on a
role of said destination, and

said access control list is configured to allow said source user group identifier and said
destination user group identifier to be compared; and

computer readable storage media, wherein said computer program product is
encoded in said computer readable storage media.

Claim 70:

An apparatus comprising:

means for populating an access control list with a destination user group identifier,
wherein said populating is performed by a network device and comprises sending a request to
another network device, and receiving a response from said another network device, wherein
said response includes said destination user group identifier, wherein

said access control list is a role-based access control list,
said destination user group identifier identifies a destination user group of a destination,
said access control list comprises a source user group field configured to store a source
user group identifier and a destination user group field configured to store a destination user
group identifier,

said source user group comprises a plurality of source network devices,
said source user group is assigned to said source based on a role of said source,
said destination user group comprises a plurality of destination network devices,

said destination user group is assigned to said destination based on a role of said destination, and

said access control list is configured to allow said source user group identifier and said destination user group identifier to be compared.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 55, 58 – 62 and 64 – 74 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The above mentioned claims are allowable over prior arts because the CPA (Cited Prior Art) of record fails to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations recited in claims 55, 65 and 70 (& associated dependent claims).

The present invention is directed to A method comprising:

populating an access control list with a destination user group identifier, wherein said access control list is a role-based access control list, said destination user group identifier identifies a destination user group of a destination, said access control list comprises a source user group field configured to store a source user group identifier and a destination user group field configured to store a destination user group identifier, said source user group comprises a plurality of source network devices, said source user group is assigned to said source based on a role of said source, said destination user group comprises a plurality of destination network devices, said destination user group is assigned to said destination based on a role of said destination, and said access control list is configured to allow said source user group identifier and said destination user group identifier to be compared. The closest prior arts on the record, either singularly or in combination fails to anticipate or render obvious the claimed invention that said populating is performed by a network device and comprises sending a request to another

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network device, and receiving a response from said another network device, wherein said response includes said destination user group identifier.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Longbit Chai whose telephone number is 571-272-3788. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Longbit Chai/

Longbit Chai Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
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7/12/2008

/Ayaz R. Sheikh/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2131